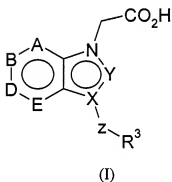


Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A compound of formula (I) or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof:



in which

each of A,B,D and E is independently C-R¹ or N;

X is carbon;

Y is $[=C-R^2]$ or $N[=C=O]$;

Z is oxygen, sulphur, a C₁₋₆alkylene chain or a bond;

R^1 is independently selected from hydrogen, halogen, CN, nitro, $S(O)_xR^6$, OR^6 , $SO_2NR^4R^5$, $CONR^4R^5$, NR^4R^5 , $NR^7SO_2R^7$, $NR^7C(O)_xR^7$, C₂-C₆ alkenyl, C₂-C₆ alkynyl, C₁₋₆alkyl, and aryl or heteroaryl, the latter four five groups being optionally substituted by one or more substituents independently selected from 1-3 halogen atoms, $-OR^7$ and $-NR^4R^5$, $S(O)_xR^8$, $C(O)NR^4R^5$, where x is 0, 1 or 2;

~~R^2 is C₁₋₆alkyl which may be optionally substituted by one or more substituents independently selected from halogen atoms, aryl, $-OR^9$ and $-NR^{10}R^{11}$;~~

R^3 is a quinoline an aryl or heteroaryl group, each of which is optionally substituted by one or more substituents independently selected from halogen, CN, nitro, $S(O)_xR^6$, OR^7 , $SO_2NR^4R^5$, $CONR^4R^5$, NR^4R^5 , $NR^7SO_2R^3$, $NR^7C(O)_xR^6$, C₂-C₆ alkenyl, C₂-C₆ alkynyl, C₁₋₆ alkyl, the latter three groups being optionally substituted by one or more substituents independently selected from halogen atoms, $-OR^6$ and $-NR^4R^5$, where x = 0, 1 or 2;

R^4 and R^5 independently represent a hydrogen atom, a C₁₋₆alkyl group, or aryl group the latter two of which may be optionally substituted by one or more substituent groups independently selected from halogen atoms, aryl, $-OR^{12}$ and $-NR^{13}R^{14}$, $-CONR^{13}R^{14}$, $-NR^{13}COR^{14}$, $SO_2NR^{13}R^{14}$, $NR^{13}SO_2R^{14}$;

or

~~R^4 and R^5 together with the nitrogen atom to which they are attached can form a 3-8 membered saturated heterocyclic ring optionally containing one or more atoms selected from O, S, NR^{15} , and itself optionally substituted by C₁₋₃alkyl, halogen;~~

R^6 represents a C₁₋₆alkyl which may be optionally substituted by one or more substituents independently selected from halogen atoms, aryl, $-OR^9$ and $-NR^{10}R^{11}$ [[.]]

each of R^7 , R^8 , R^9 , R^{10} , R^{11} , R^{12} , R^{13} , R^{14} , independently represents a hydrogen atom, C_1 - C_6 , alkyl, an aryl or a heteroaryl group which may be optionally substituted by one or more halogen atoms, OH, O- C_1 - C_6 alkyl; and

R^{15} is hydrogen, C_1 -4 alkyl, -COC $_1$ -C $_4$ alkyl, -COQC $_1$ -C $_4$ alkyl, Q=O or NR 6 [[,]]

provided that:

the number of nitrogen atoms within the ring ABDE is 1 or 2 when Y is CR 2 and

R 3 cannot be phenyl when Y is C=O and X is nitrogen.

2. (Cancelled)
3. (Cancelled)
4. (Cancelled)
5. (Currently amended) A compound according to claim 1 [[4]] in which Z is a bond.
6. (Cancelled)
7. (Cancelled)
8. (Previously Presented) A compound according to claim 1 in which Z is sulfur, methylene or a bond.
9. (Currently amended) A compound according to claim 1 selected from:
5-methyl-3-(4-quinolinyl)-1H-indazole-1-acetic acid;
5-cyano-3-(4-quinolinyl)-1H-indazole-1-acetic acid;
3-(6-fluoro-4-quinolinyl)-4-(trifluoromethyl)-1H-indazole-1-acetic acid; and

4-iodo-3-(4-quinoliny)-1*H*-indazole-1-acetic acid;
3-[(4-chlorophenyl)thio]-5-iodo-1*H*-indazole-1-acetic acid;
3-(7-chloro-4-quinoliny)-2-methyl-1*H*-pyrrolo[2,3-*b*]pyridine-1-acetic acid, sodium salt;
3-[(4-Chloro-2,4-cyclohexadien-1-yl)thio]-2,5-dimethyl-1*H*-pyrrolo[3,2-*b*]pyridine-1-acetic acid;
2,5-Dimethyl-3-[[4-(methylsulfonyl)-2,4-cyclohexadien-1-yl]methyl]-1*H*-pyrrolo[3,2-*b*]pyridine-1-acetic acid;
2,5-Dimethyl-3-[[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]thio]-1*H*-pyrrolo[3,2-*b*]pyridine-1-acetic acid;
4-Chloro-3-[(4-chlorophenyl)thio]-2-methyl-1*H*-pyrrolo[3,2-*c*]pyridine-1-acetic acid;
4-Chloro-2-methyl-3-[[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]thio]-1*H*-pyrrolo[3,2-*c*]pyridine-1-acetic acid;
3-[(4-Chlorophenyl)thio]-2-methyl-4-phenyl-1*H*-pyrrolo[3,2-*c*]pyridine-1-acetic acid;
2-Methyl-3-[[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]thio]-4-phenyl-1*H*-pyrrolo[3,2-*c*]pyridine-1-acetic acid;
and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

10. (Cancelled)

11. (Withdrawn) A method of treating a disease mediated by prostaglandin D₂, which comprises administering to a patient a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of formula (I), or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt as defined in claim 1.

12. (Withdrawn) A method of treating according to claim 11 wherein the disease is asthma or rhinitis.

13. (Cancelled)

14. (Cancelled)

15. (Withdrawn-amended) The method according to claim 11 wherein the compound is selected from:

5-methyl-3-(4-quinolinyl)-1*H*-indazole-1-acetic acid;

5-cyano-3-(4-quinolinyl)-1*H*-indazole-1-acetic acid;

3-(6-fluoro-4-quinolinyl)-4-(trifluoromethyl)-1*H*-indazole-1-acetic acid; and

4-iodo-3-(4-quinolinyl)-1*H*-indazole-1-acetic acid;

3-[(4-chlorophenyl)thio]-5-iodo-1*H*-indazole-1-acetic acid;

3-(7-chloro-4-quinolinyl)-2-methyl-1*H*-pyrrolo[2,3-*b*]pyridine-1-acetic acid, sodium salt;

3-[(4-Chloro-2,4-cyclohexadien-1-yl)thio]-2,5-dimethyl-1*H*-pyrrolo[3,2-*b*]pyridine-1-acetic acid;

2,5-Dimethyl-3-[[4-(methylsulfonyl)-2,4-cyclohexadien-1-yl]methyl]-1*H*-pyrrolo[3,2-*b*]pyridine-1-acetic acid;

2,5-Dimethyl-3-[[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]thio]-1*H*-pyrrolo[3,2-*b*]pyridine-1-acetic acid;

4-Chloro-3-[(4-chlorophenyl)thio]-2-methyl-1*H*-pyrrolo[3,2-*c*]pyridine-1-acetic acid;

4-Chloro-2-methyl-3-[[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]thio]-1*H*-pyrrolo[3,2-*c*]pyridine-1-acetic acid;

3-[(4-Chlorophenyl)thio]-2-methyl-4-phenyl-1*H*-pyrrolo[3,2-*c*]pyridine-1-acetic acid;

2-Methyl-3-[[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]thio]-4-phenyl-1*H*-pyrrolo[3,2-*c*]pyridine-1-acetic acid;

and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.